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INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

Letter dated 2 March 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a summary of the progress which was made by Peru in combating drug trafficking in 1994 and which is a further demonstration of my country's willingness and determination in combating, in a comprehensive manner, this scourge that affects all mankind.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 110 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Fernando GUILLEN SALAS
Permanent Representative

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Annex

SUMMARY OF THE PROGRESS MADE BY PERU IN COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING IN 1994

1. One of the basic objectives of the Peruvian Government is combating drug trafficking in a comprehensive manner, which involves dealing with all aspects of the problem (from production to consumption) through a multidisciplinary approach ensuring the participation of all sectors concerned. The following measures and gains came about in this regard in 1994.

I. ENACTMENT OF APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS

2. Under Supreme Decree No. 82-94-PCM, the "National Drug-Abuse Prevention and Control Plan" was adopted, which is in keeping with the international obligations assumed by Peru and focuses national efforts on dealing with the problems concerned, giving priority to an alternative development strategy aimed at reducing the supply of natural drug inputs.

3. Similarly, far-reaching regulations were enacted to control money laundering and the diversion of the chemical precursors and inputs used in drug manufacturing and to penalize poppy cultivation.

II. INTERDICTION MEASURES

4. In 1994, the National Police of Peru (the National Anti-Drug Office (DINANDRO)) and the armed forces made considerable progress in controlling and suppressing illegal trafficking:

(a) Seizure of 11.6 tons of drugs (10.5 tons of basic cocaine paste and 130 tons of chemical inputs);

(b) Arrest of 6,586 persons involved in related criminal activities;

(c) Destruction of 21 laboratories, 79 maceration pools and 28 clandestine landing strips;

(d) Major drug trafficking heads were captured, such as Demetrio Chavez Peñaherrera ("Vaticano") and Lucio Tijero Guzman ("Ingeniero") and, in addition, the mafia operating in the central jungle region (Aguaytia and the Pozuzo Valley) was disbanded and its leaders, the Cachique Rivera brothers are currently the object of an intensive search being conducted by the law enforcement forces;

(e) An operation launched by DINANDRO in collaboration with the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) resulted in the largest seizure of cocaine hydrochloride carried out in our country (3.2 tons) as well as the breaking up of the first Peruvian cartel ("Cartel de los Norteños"), uncovering and

destroying their entire operations infrastructure and capturing their leaders, the Lopez Paredes brothers, as well as almost 50 accomplices.

5. These measures helped greatly in bringing about a drastic reduction in the flow of drugs to the main consumer markets (the United States of America and Western Europe). The achievements outlined above are all the more meritorious since almost all of them were brought about by means of national resources.

III. CROP ERADICATION

6. Recent statistics indicate a slight decrease in the size of the areas where coca leaves are grown for illicit purposes (108,600 hectares), which represents a reduction to the levels of 1987. Although our country does not consider it feasible to conduct a massive crop-eradication policy for both ecological reasons as well as socio-economic ones (the subsistence economy of a certain sector of farmers), it believes that such a policy would complement the alternative development strategy in order to reduce the areas cultivated for illicit purposes.

IV. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

7. In order to optimize interdiction actions against the production of and illicit trafficking in drugs, the Peruvian Government has approved a considerable increase in resources for the Ministry of the Interior, allocating to it a budget of approximately $30 million for 1995 and assigning 25,000 police personnel to the campaign to combat drug trafficking. Similarly,

(a) Arrangements have been made to reorganize DINANDRO by restructuring it, redefining its functions, and providing it with greater material resources through the acquisition of four helicopters;

(b) In the area of combating corruption, the President of the Joint Armed Forces Command and General Commander of the Army, General Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios, has announced that approximately 100 cases of alleged involvement of army officers in illegal drug trafficking are currently being investigated. He also underscored the recent conviction in the court of first instance of General Jaime Rios Araico, the former political and military head of the Frente Huallaga, for such an offence. Similar measures are being carried out within the National Police of Peru.

V. STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

8. The growing globalization of the drug problem has underscored the need to increase international cooperation in order to deal with it. In 1994, our country signed agreements with Paraguay, Cuba and Guatemala in order to coordinate policies and carry out joint measures in this area. At the multilateral level, a memorandum of understanding on subregional cooperation was signed with Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP).

VI. STATISTICAL TABLE CONCERNING INTERDICTION ACTIONS CARRIED OUT BETWEEN 1991 AND 1994

9. A comparative statistical table concerning interdiction actions carried out between 1991 and 1994, drawn up by the National Police of Peru, has been appended in order to provide further information.

Appendix

National Police of Peru

National Anti-Drug Office

Comparative statistical table

	Item/year	1991	1992	1993	1994
I.	Interventions	775	3 180	3 862	4 551
II.	Persons arrested	3 664	4 195	5 022	6 586
	A. Trafficking		1 388	1 817	2 184
	B. Consumption		2 720	3 105	4 275
	C. Minors		67	100	127
III.	Drugs seized (kg)	6 234 000	7 775 994	9 298 099	11 619 386
	A. Basic coca paste	5 264 000	7 471 861	8 431 388	10 540 846
	B. Hydrochloride (CH)	595 000	184 764	440 900	93 690
	C. Marijuana	375 000	119 369	423 811	404 210
	D. Opium				580 650
IV.	Chemical inputs seized (kg)	79 968 705	150 313 215	79 759 551	130 688 742
	A. Sulphuric acid	35 166 320	97 615 000	33 384 300	76 204 757
	B. Acetone	3 661 500	10 700 200	20 249 820	1 348 150
	C. Sodium carbonate	5 787 587	9 230 166	15 876 476	4 274 505
	D. Potassium permanganate	990 478	2 751 349	1 810 700	240 480
	E. Hydrochloric acid	226 840	2 294 400	436 255	19 271 850
	F. Sodium hypochlorite				22 626 000
	G. Sodium sulphate			50 000	325 000
	H. Others	34 136 000	27 722 100	7 152 000	3 968 950
V.	Seizures				
	A. Buildings		16	31	42
	B. Vehicles		42	50	82
	- Light aircraft captured				3
	- Light aircraft destroyed				1
	C. Currency				
	- National	5 361.00	16 063.00	2 668.00	19 034.25
	- Foreign	27 040.00	160 611.00	1 301 733.00	831 228.36
VI.	FACILITIES DESTROYED				
	A. Laboratories	81	54	41	21
	B. Pools	28	315	28	79
	C. Clandestine landing strips	5	6	10	28